

THE TONGUE IN DIAGNOSIS,

—BY—

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2nd Edit.

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Diagnosis and Treatment of Disease by
the Map.

THIS map of the tongue defines the seats of relationship to the various organs of the body, and places before the observer at a glance, the condition of any of those organs indicated upon it.

In health the tongue should be whitish pink, smooth, firm and slightly moist. A slight dominance of acid over the alkaline elements is the essential condition of vital activity and health, and when this limit is exceeded, the excreting organs should remove it; but if they fail to do so, then the excess of acid originates congestive diseases in various organs; and if this congestive state continue, it will lead to active or arterial inflammation and fevers.

If a grayish white color with fur be present, there is in those organs so affected a congestive or hyper-acid state; but if redness with fur, there is an inflammatory or hyper-alkaline state; and the severity of each condition is shown by the degree of intensity of each color:—and these two scales of color, white or red, and their significance, are assumed to be the only classification for the basic treatment of all constitutional diseases.

The white color also indicates an electro-positive state of the system according to its dominance upon the tongue, due either to idiopathic or atmospheric causes, and originates all glandular and nervous derangements; and the red color, an electro-negative state, which originates all fevers.

The basic medication for the white or hyper-acid state will be alkalies; and for the red or hyper-alkaline state, acids with anodynes.

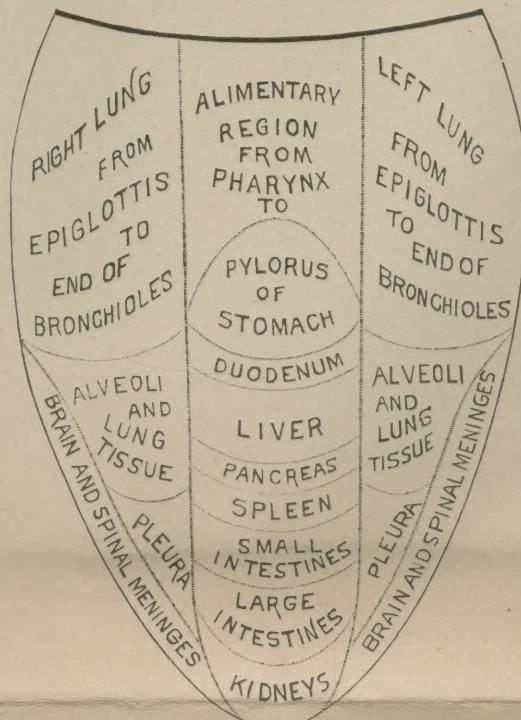
In disease, the tongue at first colors and furs at its root in the stomach tract; then at its sides in the lung and nerve tracts; then at its middle or digestive and excretory tract; thus showing the order of involvement in departing health.

In returning health, the tongue cleans first at its tip in the kidney seat; then at its sides, the lung and cerebro-spinal tracts; and at last in the middle and at its root, in the digestive and excretory tract.

By observing the order of these natural processes of disease and convalescence, we are safely guided by the tongue in the proper and timely treatment of each process, so as to remove disease and prevent its development.

In acute diseases, restore the stomach first, then the bronchi, then the lung tissue and nerve centres, then the digestive and excretory organs; but in subacute and chronic states, act first upon the kidneys, then the lung and nerve tracts, and lastly the liver and alimentary tract.

Map of the Tongue.



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Indications of Various States and Colors of the Tongue.

FUR, indicates defective circulation and gastric debility.

HUMIDITY, atony with anemia.

DRYNESS, nervous irritation with congestion.

FLABBINESS, fullness, tremulousness, indicate impoverished blood with debility.

IMPERFECT MUSCULAR MOVEMENT, or difficult articulation, indicates involvement of the cerebro-spinal nerves.

WHITE:—If grayish white, within two hours after a meal, it indicates normal digestion; if four hours after, arrested digestion.

If white with thin coating, acidity in excess.

If yellowish white, acidity with biliary irritation.

If very white, with very thick coating, looking like white flannel, there is intense venous congestion, with paralysis of the sympathetic nervous system, and involvement of the cerebro-spinal meninges. This condition is seen in cerebro-spinal meningitis.

RED:—If pinkish, digestion is just completed.

If red, indicates irritation, with arterial congestion.

If deep red, severe arterial congestion, with nerve irritation and active inflammation.

If bright red, raw or glazed, there is paralysis of the sympathetic nervous system, approaching exhaustion from want of nutrition or loss of digestive power.

BROWN:—If brownish red, with thick dry coating; there is arterial congestion with carbonic acid poisoning, and severe nervous and physical prostration, threatening death.

BLACK:—If blackish there is blood poisoning from bile and carbonic acid, or sepsis from pus formation, with heart exhaustion.

BLUE:—Bluish, there is a deficiency in both red blood corpuscles and blood aeration with defective circulation.

DUSKY, swollen tongue, there is venous congestion becoming arterial or inflammatory, with blood deterioration and imperfect circulation.

FISSURES:—The transverse fissures found frequently in the median line of the tongue, indicate chronic congestion of those organs in the tracts which they limit.

The indications of danger in the tongue are tremulous action, dryness, blueness, very red shining or raw glazed aspect, heavy furring, and dark or black hue.

